

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03591 151818Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W

-----106226 151825Z /73

R 151630Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5711  
INFO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
AMCONSUL OPORTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3591

E.O. 11652: XGDS3  
TAGS: PINT, PO  
SUBJECT: SA CARNEIRO SHOWS NO SIGNS OF LETTING UP

REF: (A) LISBON 3453, (B) LISBON 2611, (C) LISBON 2774

SUMMARY: THE MAY 13-14 PSD NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS CLEARLY RUN BEHIND THE SCENES BY FORMER PARTY LEADER SA CARNEIRO AND HIS SUPPORTERS. SOUSA FRANCO AND HIS MODERATES DID NOT ATTEND. THE PARTY'S INTERIM DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED A WORKING DOCUMENT DESIGNED TO STRUCTURE THE POLICY DEBATE WITHIN THE PARTY--IN THE COMMITTEE'S OWN WORDS--PAVE THE WAY FOR SA CARNEIRO'S RETURN AS PSD LEADER AT THE JULY NATIONAL CONGRESS. END SUMMARY.

1. INTERNAL DEBATE FORMALIZED: AT THE MAY 13-14 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING IN PORTALEGRE, THE PSD'S INTERIM DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED A WORKING PAPER IN THE COMMITTEE'S WORDS DESIGNED TO STRUCTURE THE POLICY DEBATE STILL FERMENTING WITHIN THE PARTY (READ SOUSA FRANCO MODERATES VS SA CARNEIRO) AND TO CREATE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO SA CARNEIRO'S FORMAL RETURN AS PARTY LEADER AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1-2 IN LISBON. THE WORKING PAPER  
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OUTLINES A SERIES OF EITHER-OR PROPOSITIONS FOR INTERNAL PARTY DISCUSSION. THE PSD SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT, THE DOCUMENT ASKS:  
--BASE PARTY POLICY ON THE COLLAPSE OF THE PS/CDS GOVERNMENT;  
  
--SEEK LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS BEFORE 1980;  
--ENTER THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE 1980;

--PURSUE A POLICY OF CRITICAL SUPPORT, SELECTIVE OPPOSITION,  
OR SYSTEMATIC OPPOSITION TOWARD PRESIDENT EANES;  
--SUBMIT A PLAN FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION TO THE PUBLIC FOR  
DEBATE NOW;  
--AGREE TO WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS  
IN AN ATTEMPT TO MOLD THE FINAL RESULT (SELECTIVE OPPOSITION)  
OR SYSTEMATICALLY OPPOSE ANY LEGISLATION THE PARTY CANNOT  
SUPPORT 100 PERCENT;  
--ALLOW PARTY MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PS/CDS GOVERNMENT;  
--CONSIDER "ACTION IN THE STREETS" AND "MOBILIZE THE MASSES"  
AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT;  
--TAKE A POSITION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY  
COUNCIL AND OPPOSE THAT ORGAN OF SOVEREIGNTY'S CONTINUED  
EXISTENCE BEYOND 1980, AND  
--ANALYZE WHERE THE REAL THREATS TO PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY LIE.

2. SOUSA FRANCO MODERATES STAY CLEAR: NEITHER SOUSA FRANCO  
NOR FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL SERVULO CORREIA ATTENDED THE  
WEEKEND MEETING. AT THE OPENING SESSION, HOWEVER, A SOUSA  
FRANCO LETTER RESTATING HIS PREVIOUS POSITIONS WAS READ.  
IN A PRE-WEEKEND INTERVIEW, SERVULO CORREIA QUESTIONED  
THE "SPONTANEITY" OF THE TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT RECEIVED BY  
SA CARNEIRO AT THE APRIL 14-15 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING.  
FORMER PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADER MAGALHAES MOTA ALSO URGED  
LAST WEEK THAT THE PARTY NEWSPAPER "POVO LIVRE" OPEN ITS  
PAGES TO DISSENTING VIEWS. IN DISCUSSION WITH POLCOUNS  
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MAY 11, CORREIA SAID PARTY MODERATES PLAN TO MAKE THEIR  
MAJOR CHALLENGE AT THE JULY 1 NATIONAL CONGRESS. ACCORDING  
TO CORREIA, HE AND HIS FORMER POLITICAL COMMISSION COLLEAGUES  
DELIBERATELY CEDED PSD PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADERSHIP TO  
MENERES PIMENTEL AND OTHER "UNCONDITIONAL" SA CARNEIRO  
SUPPORTERS ON THE PREMISE THAT THE NEW LEADERSHIP WOULD QUICKLY  
DEMONSTRATE ITS INCOMPETENCE THEREBY BOLSTERING THE MODERATES'  
POSITION. UNADVERTISED, THE MODERATES PLAN TO SUBMIT A  
REVISED PARTY STRATEGY DOCUMENT TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS THUS  
FORCING A DEBATE ON ISSUES AND NOT PERSONALITIES--ATACTICAL  
MOVE CORREIA BELIEVES THEY CAN WIN.

3. SA CARNEIRO PRESERVES HIS OPTIONS: SA CARNEIRO DID NOT  
STAY FOR THE ENTIRE COUNCIL SESSION. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE  
SAID THE FORMER PARTY LEADER WOULD NOT SUBMIT HIS CANDIDACY  
FOR ANY PARTY OFFICE SINCE HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE CIRCUM-  
STANCES ARE YET RIGHT.

4. COMMENT: AS EXPECTED (REF A) THE INTERIM DIRECTIVE  
COMMITTEE-LED COUNCIL SESSION MOVED THE PARTY ONE STEP  
CLOSER TO SA CARNEIRO'S DE JURE RETURN TO POWER IN JULY.  
SA CARNEIRO CONTINUES TO ORCHESTRATE THE PARTY MACHINERY FROM  
BEHIND THE SCENES. BY REFUSING TO FORMALIZE HIS OWN CANDIDACY,

HE CHEERFULLY ENCOURAGES HIS SUPPORTERS TO CALL FOR HIS  
RETURN ALL THE MORE VOCIFEROUSLY. SOUSA FRANCO ET AL  
MAY HAVE HOPED TO DRAW THEINTERNAL PARTY DEBATE ON THE  
ISSUES AT THE JULY CONGRESS. BUT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S  
WORKING DOCUMENT--ALREADY CONVENIENTLY LEAKED TO THE  
PRESS AND REMARKEDLY LIKE SA CARNEIRO'S RECENT PUBLICATION  
"IMPASSE" (REF B ) MAY HAVE DRAWN THE TEETH FROM WHAT PARTY  
MODERATES HOPED WOULD BE THEIR MAJOR WEAPON. SERIOUS DOUBTS  
REMAIN AS TO WHETHER THE MODERATES HAVE THE CAPACITY  
TO STOP A MAN SERVULO CORREIA RECENTLY DESCRIBED AS A BRILLANT  
POLITICIAN CONSUMED BY PERSONAL AMBITION.  
BLOOMFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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